

Press release

photo basel 2018: show report



Yoko Ikeda 341-03, Kahoku Town, 2008 © Yoko Ikeda, courtesy by IBASHO

Photo Basel, now in its fourth year, wants to offer something different: a boutique fair of vintage and fine-art photography, and photography-based art.

The New York Times

Art lovers wilting under the weight of commerce grinding through the behemoth fairs should head to this compact alternative for lighter, more subtle encounters.

Financial Times



For its 4th edition photo basel had exceptionally strong attendance from both established and new collectors, institutions and art enthusiasts, making the fair the one of the leading destinations for photography collecting this summer.

photo basel proudly announces that 87% of all exhibiting galleries reported sales. Newcomers such as Galerie Peter Sillem and Ibasho Gallery enjoyed strong sales, alongside returning galleries including Bildhalle, Baudoin Lebon and Ira Stehmann

The fair continues to retain strong ties with many international collectors from neighbouring countries, and key attendees at this year's fair included Amaury de Solages and Peter Herzog. Patron and collector group attendance included Sotheby's Preferred, Young Collector's Circle Amsterdam and The Cultivist.

Representatives from distinguished public institutions and private foundations included: Nanda van den Berg, Huis Marseille, Amsterdam; Axel Rüger, Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam; Florian Ebner, Le Centre Pompidou, Paris; Inka Schube, Sprengel Museum, Hanover; Tatyana Franck and Marc Donnadieu, Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne; Sarah Girard, Bieler Fototage, Biel; Stefano Stoll, Images Vevey; Thomas Seelig, Fotomuseum, Winterthur and Sascha Renner, Fotostiftung, Winterthur.

For a full list of exhibitors please visit the website. www.photo-basel.com

photo basel is especially pleased to have successfully launched several new initiatives. **Master Cabinet: Pivotal Moments** - a new section of the fair devoted to classic masterpieces of the 20th century – boasted notable sales including Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zürich selling three unique vintage photograms by the concrete photographer, Roger Humbert.

The first edition of the ALPA AWARD 2018, a newly launched award for the best artist at photo basel, was granted to Yoko Ikeda of Ibasho gallery, Antwerp. Held in cooperation with the Swiss camera manufacturer ALPA® as well as a private collector from Zürich, the award granted a cash prize or ALPA® camera system to the winning photographer. Yoko Ikeda's image *Kahoku Town, Yamagata Prefecture, 2008* was acquired by a private collector.

This year has proven to be a real success with strong sales and top quality curation and booth design. photo basel enjoyed a mixture of returning and new exhibitors. We are especially pleased to have launched our Master Cabinet and the ALPA AWARD 2018, both proved to be popular with collectors and exhibitors alike.

Sven Eisenhut, Director of photo basel

SALES HIGHLIGHTS

Galleries throughout the fair reported strong sales across all levels of the market.

- **Ibasho Gallery**, Antwerp had dedicated their booth to overlooked female Japanese photographers and reported amongst their sales works by Yoko Ikeda who won the ALPA AWARD.
- **Ira Stehmann**, Munich had strong sales including *Yves Saint Laurent* by Jeanloup Sieff.



- Parisian **Galerie Baudoin Lebon** whose presentation of works by Ayana V. Jackson was extremely popular and sold out.
- **Dorothee Nilsson**, Berlin, solo show by German photographer Sascha Weidner was acquired by a German institution.
- **Flatland Gallery**, Amsterdam were very pleased and reported to have sold works by Paolo Ventura and Erwin Olaf.

Galleries exhibiting at photo basel reported successful sales at this year's edition:

In its fourth edition, the fair lives up to its expectations. In the photography sector, it reached the level of Basel's main fair. We have sold very well and to mostly new collectors.

Esther Woerdehoff, founder, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Paris

It was a highly successful fair for me. I appreciate the boutique character of the fair. I sold well and expect various sales after the fair is over. I can't wait to come back to photo basel next year. The sky is the limit!

Mirjam Cavegn, founder, Bildhalle, Zurich

[photo basel] is a worthy complement to the annual fairs in Art Basel week with strong exhibitors and artists and an ever growing high-quality visitor base. Our week has been tremendous due to strong sales to both private as well as institutional clients... and of course the great accolade for our artist Yoko Ikeda winning the ALPA Award.

Martijn van Pieterse, founder, Ibasho Gallery, Antwerp



Albarrán Cabrera, *The Mouth of Krishna #613*, 2013, Courtesy Bildhalle

Notes to Editors:

photo basel
Volkshaus
Basel
12-14 Rebgasse
4058 Basel, Switzerland

June 12-17, 2018
www.photo-basel.com | #photobasel

The dates of next year's fair have been announced as June 11-16, 2019.

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